

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A call screening device includes a switch circuit and a controller. The switch circuit is adapted to be connected to a facsimile machine and a telephone line.

5 The controller is coupled electrically to the switch circuit and is adapted to be connected to the telephone line. The controller includes a data storage unit for storing telephone numbers, an incoming call detector adapted to detect a caller telephone number associated with an incoming call on the telephone line, and a  
10 comparator unit for making a comparison between the caller telephone number detected by the incoming call detector and the telephone numbers stored in the data storage unit, and for controlling the switch circuit  
15 to make or break connection between the facsimile machine and the telephone line according to the result of the comparison made by the comparator unit.